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18 December 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Request of General Samford for Special
Estimate (TS #028384, dated 13 December)

1. The Board of National Estimates has carefully considered General Samford's request and recommends against the preparation of this Special Estimate. It appears to the Board unlikely that such an estimate could provide new material or new viewpoints of real consequence. The subject matter of the proposed estimate falls almost entirely within the competence of the Air Force and the Department of State. In the opinion of the Board, General Samford could probably get directly from the State Department such position papers and other materials as would bear on the problem. In view of the fact that the existing work load of O/NE and of the IAC agencies is so heavy, it would appear unwise to undertake further projects unless these are clearly essential.

2. The Board suggests that you might appropriately discuss this matter with General Samford in an informal way before the IAC meeting on Thursday and request that he withdraw his proposal.

WILLIAM L. LANGER
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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